(c) what steps are being taken by the Company to boost exports in the near future and what targets have been set for the coming year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE, (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Coal India Limited exported 0.98 lakh tonnes of coal valued at US $ 1.19 million during 1993-94.

(b) Constraints in export of coal include availability of coal as per specifications demanded by foreign buyers, availability of infrastructural facilities, domestic demand, etc.

(c) Restrictions on export of coal have been removed and Coal India has signed additional contracts for export of coal. Export targets have not been set for the coming year.

STC without Full-time Chief

5288. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Goverment attention has been drawn to the news item published in the Pioneer dated the 5th April, 1994 captioned 'STC in direct straits without full-time chief'; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in respect thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) and (b) Government is aware of the news item published in the Pioneer dated the 5th April, 1994 captioned "STC in dire straits without full-time chief".

Shri S. C. Vaish, who joined as CMD on 29th June, 1990 relinquished charge of the post on 3rd October, 1993 consequent upon his appointment as Member (Administration), Central Administrative Tribunal, Chandigarh. Pending formal selection of Shri Vaish's successor by PESB (Public Enterprises Selection Board) and with a view to make an interim arrangement to manage the affairs of the Corporation. Shri Ajit Kumar, Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser in the Ministry of Commerce has been entrusted additional charge of the post of CMD, STC from the date Shri Vaish vacated it.

The selection of a regular incumbent for the post is presently in process in PESB (Public Enterprises Selection Board).

Audit Objections indicating excess payment of CCS

5289. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the Unstarred Question 1908 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 1994 and state :

(a) the nature and details of the audit objection indicating the excess payment of cash compensatory support and name of party or parties;

(b) whether it is a fact that subsequent team of auditors from the same authorities had cleared the objections in the matter;

(c) whether the audit authorities have been expecting some Government clarification;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what further action has been taken to clear the objections and to allow the drawal of CCS by the parties to encourage exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) The audit objections relate to excess payment